APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/499,819	02/08/2000	Sivaramakrishna Kuditipudi	FORE-57	1785

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EXAMINER
BLAIR, DOUGLAS B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2142	5

DATE MAILED: 12/13/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

	Application No.	**Applicant(s)**
● ● **Office Action Summary**	09/499,819	KUDITIPUDI ET AL.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Douglas B Blair	2142	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>08 February 2000</u> .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-25* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-25* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>08 February 2000</u> is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .   6)☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1.   The drawings are objected to because they do not correspond to the brief descriptions in

the specification. The specification states that Figure 1 is a representation of the system of the

present invention, however, Figure 1 actually shows the switch of the present invention. The

specification states that Figure 2 is a representation of the switch of the present invention;

however, Figure 2 actually shows the system of the present invention. A proposed drawing

correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment

of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United
> States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who
> has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention
> thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999

(AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined

was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C.

122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment

by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3.   Claims 1-2, 14-15 and 22-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

U.S. Patent Number 6,487,204 to Dacier et al..

4.   As to claim 1, Dacier teaches a switch of a network comprising: a topology database

having configuration information (col. 1, lines 13-52); and a mechanism for sending the

configuration information from the topology database to the network and for receiving

configuration information from the network and storing it in the topology database (col. 1, lines

13-52, Each node sends and receives configuration information by "flooding".).

5.   As to claim 2, Dacier teaches the switch as described in claim 1 wherein the sending and

receiving mechanism include a switch agent for receiving configuration information from the

network (col. 1, lines 13-52).

6.   As to claim 14, Dacier teaches a telecommunications system comprising: S switches,

where S is an integer greater than or equal to 2, each switch having a topology database with all

configuration information of the S switches, any one switch providing all the configuration

information for all of the S switches (col. 1, lines 13-52).

7.   As to claim 15, Dacier teaches a system as described in claim 14 wherein the switches

send configuration information to each other (col. 1, lines 13-52).

8.   As to claim 22, Dacier teaches a method for operating a telecommunications network

comprising the steps of: placing configuration information of a first switch of the network into a

topology database of the first switch (col. 1, lines 13-52); and propagating the configuration

information of the first switch to a second switch of the network (col. 1, lines 13-52, Each node

sends and receives configuration information by "flooding".).

9.   As to claim 23, Dacier teaches a method as described in claim 22 wherein the first and

second switches are in a PNNI peer group, and after the propagating step, there is the step of

retrieving configuration information for all the switches in the PNNI peer group from the first

switch (col. 3, lines 55-67 and col. 4, lines 1-13, By "flooding" any node can provide

configuration information to any other node.).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

11.   Claims 3-13, 16-21, and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over U.S. patent Number 6,487,204 to Dacier et al. in view of U.S. Patent Number 6,286,038 to

Reichmeyer et al..

12.   As to claim 3, Dacier teaches the switch described in claim 2; however, Dacier does not

teach the use of SNMP.

         Reichmeyer teaches a switch wherein a switch agent looks up in the topology database

and returns requested information of an SNMP query from the network (col. 4, lines 44-50).

         It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the

time of the invention to combine the teachings of Dacier regarding a switch that stores topology

information with the teachings of Reichmeyer regarding the use of SNMP messages because

SNMP provides an efficient method for communication (col. 4, lines 44-50 of Reichmeyer).

13.   As to claim 4, Reichmeyer teaches a switch wherein the switch agent forms an SNMP

query from the network (col. 4, lines 44-50).

14.   As to claim 5, Dacier teaches a switch wherein the topology database has all

configuration information of the network (col. 3, lines 55-67 and col. 4, lines 1-12).

15.   As to claim 6, Dacier teaches a switch wherein the configuration information includes the

name of the switch (col. 3, lines 3-37, The name of the switch comprises a peer address and a

unique number.).

16.   As to claim 7, Reichmeyer teaches a switch wherein the configuration information

includes an IP address of the switch (col. 8, lines 33-42).

17.   As to claim 8, Reichmeyer teaches a switch wherein the configuration information

includes a software version of the switch (col. 8, lines 18-32, The code level is a software

version.).

18.   As to claim 9, Reichmeyer teaches a switch wherein the configuration information

includes a hardware type of the switch (col. 8, lines 18-32).

19.   As to claim 10, Dacier teaches a switch wherein the configuration information includes a

unique ID of the switch (col. 3, lines 3-37, The peer address and unique number form a unique

ID of the switch.).

20.   As to claim 11, Dacier teaches a switch wherein the configuration information includes a

remote index of the switch (col. 3, lines 3-37, The unique address within the peer group is a

remote index.).

21.   As to claim 12, Reichmeyer teaches a switch wherein the configuration information

includes nodal flags of the switch (col. 8, lines 33-42).

22.   As to claim 13, Reichmeyer teaches a switch wherein the configuration information

includes an interface name for the address of the switch (col. 8, lines 18-32).

23.   As to claim 16, Dacier teaches the system described in claim 15; Dacier teaches a system

wherein switches send queries to each other to return retrieved configuration information from

each other, and the switches respond (col. 3, lines 38-67 and col. 4, lines 1-13); however, Dacier

does not teach the use of SNMP messages.

    Reichmeyer teaches a switch wherein a switch agent looks up in the topology database

and returns requested information of an SNMP query from the network (col. 4, lines 44-50).

    It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the

time of the invention to combine the teachings of Dacier regarding a switch that stores topology

information with the teachings of Reichmeyer regarding the use of SNMP messages because

SNMP provides an efficient method for communication (col. 4, lines 44-50 of Reichmeyer).

24.   As to claim 17, Dacier teaches a system wherein the switches attach a systems

information group to a nodal information group to propagate the configuration information to the

other switches in response to query (col. 3, lines 3-37, Figure 2 shows how configuration

information can be propagated from an information group to a nodal information group.);

however, Dacier does not teach the use of SNMP messages.

    Reichmeyer teaches the use of SNMP messages for spreading configuration information

(col. 4, lines 4-50).

25.   As to claim 18, Dacier teaches a system wherein the switches have one or more logical

nodes (col. 3, lines 3-37).

26.   As to claim 19, Dacier teaches a system wherein the nodes form a first PNNI peer group

(col. 3, lines 3-37).

27.   As to claim 20, Dacier teaches a system including a plurality of PNNI peer groups (col. 3,

lines 3-37).

28.   As to claim 21, Dacier teaches a system wherein any node of the first PNNI peer group

can provide all the configuration information for the first PNNI peer group (col. 3, lines 55-67

and col. 4, lines 1-13).

29.   As to claim 24, Dacier teaches the system of claim 23; however Dacier does not teach a

method of sending an SNMP query from a second switch to a first switch.

Reichmeyer teaches a method wherein a switch sends an SNMP query to another switch

for configuration information in the topology information of the first switch (col. 4, lines 44-50).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Computer Networking art at the

time of the invention to combine the teachings of Dacier regarding a switch that stores topology

information with the teachings of Reichmeyer regarding the use of SNMP messages because

SNMP provides an efficient method for communication (col. 4, lines 44-50 of Reichmeyer).

30.   As to claim 25, Dacier teaches a method wherein a propagating step includes the steps of

attaching a system information group having the configuration information from the topology

database of a first switch requested by a query to a nodal information group (col. 3, lines 3-37,

Figure 2 shows how configuration information can be propagated from an information group to a

nodal information group.); and propagating the system information group attached to the nodal

information group to the second switch (col. 3, lines 3-37, Figure 2 shows how configuration

information can be propagated from an information group to a nodal information group.).

Conclusion

31.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Douglas B Blair whose telephone number is 703-305-5267. The

examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5pm Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Mark Powell can be reached on 703-305-9703. The fax phone numbers for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular

communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3800.

Douglas Blair
December 3, 2002

MARK POWELL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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